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# COMMANDERS DIGEST

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## DOD Statistics Show Increase In North Vietnam SAM Sites

The number of surface-to-air missiles sites in North Vietnam has quadrupled in the last two years, according to statistics released by the Department of Defense.

DOD figures show that in mid-1965 there were approximately 50 SAM sites and information available concerning mid-1967 shows more than 200.

"Many of these sites are unoccupied," a spokesman explained, and "many are occupied with dummy missiles."

There are usually four to six launchers at each site, estimated to be a battery-size unit. There are probably three batteries to a battalion.

It was noted that many SAMs are semi-mobile and shift location frequently.

Concerning restrictions of attacking SAM sites, DOD said, "any SAM site anywhere in North Vietnam, posing a threat to a strike force, may be attacked if necessary to protect the force."

Because of the movement of SAMs, Defense explained that the number listed should not be taken as an accurate index of SAM strength.

It was pointed out that the North Vietnamese have fired more than 3,500 SAMs and have been the cause of only 76 U.S. confirmed and probable aircraft losses.

## JCS Chairman Hospitalized; Gen. Johnson Named Acting Chairman

General Earle G. Wheeler, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, was admitted to Walter Reed Army Hospital, Aug. 30, for observation in relation to his regular annual physical examination.

During the course of a routine evaluation of electrocardiographic changes discovered during his examination, it was noted that he had experienced minor heart damage since his last physical examination.

It was not known how long Gen. Wheeler would remain in the hospital. However, as long as he remains hospitalized, Army Chief of Staff Gen. Harold Johnson will fill the chairman position. He is the next ranking member of the JCS.

Gen. Wheeler has had no history of heart trouble.

*PENTAGON CEREMONY—Mr. Paul R. Ignatius (left) is sworn in as Secretary of the Navy by Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara during Pentagon ceremonies Sept. 1. Mr. Ignatius had previously served as Under Secretary of the Army and Assistant Secretary of Defense for Installations and Logistics.*

## Defense Dept. Supports Legislation On Enlisted Retired Pay Computation

Department of Defense is backing legislation that will allow active duty enlisted personnel in all Services to compute previous inactive duty reserve service for retired pay purposes on a point-credit basis approximately comparable to the one now used by officers.

Present law prevents most enlisted men retiring with less than 30 years service from using anything other than active duty time, a DOD witness pointed out to a House Armed Services Subcommittee.

The principal effect of the relief bill (H.R. 5943) is to give enlisted men parity with officers in counting inactive reserve service after June 1, 1958, the witness said, pointing out that President Johnson has already endorsed parity in his March federal salary message to Congress.

Officers may now count inactive service before June 1958 the same as active duty and inactive service after this date on the basis that one point equals one active duty day, including the 15 gratis points accorded annually for reserve component membership.

# Washington Memos

COL. WILLIAM A. VAN SANDT, USA, has assumed command of the U.S. Army Strategic Communications Command for the Continental U.S. Command has the basic mission of installing, operating and maintaining the Army portion of the Defense Communications Systems facilities within CONUS and elsewhere as directed.

MAJ. GEN. GORDON M. Graham has taken command of Tactical Air Command's Ninth Air Force at Shaw AFB, S.C. Gen. Shaw relieved Maj. Gen. L. F. Tanberg, who will remain with Ninth Air Force as Vice Commander. Gen. Shaw came to Ninth Air Force from Vietnam where he served as Vice Commander, Seventh Air Force.

AIR FORCE Logistics Command's Ogden Air Materiel Area, Hill AFB, Utah, has provided Tactical Air Command with an ejection seat trainer for F-4C Phantom aircraft. New seat will reduce pilot reaction time in ejecting from damaged aircraft and was produced in two weeks—a job that normally takes several months.

NAVY'S NEWEST helicopter squadron was commissioned at Norfolk Naval Air Station, Sept. 1. Designated as Helicopter Combat Support Squadron Six, unit was formerly known as HC-4 Detachment, Norfolk, with its parent command located at Lakehurst, N.J.

SIX SCIENTISTS from Air Force's Office of Aerospace Research and Air Force Systems Command laboratories will participate in third Latin America Office of Aerospace Research Seminar. A series of research briefings in South American countries during October visits are being sponsored by LAOAR, which monitors Air Force research grants in South America.

ARMY AVIATION Materiel Command has released $1.8 million in delivery orders to Lycoming Division, Avco Corp., Stratford, Conn., for purchase of aircraft engine components. Included were such items as turbine nozzle vanes, turbine springs, retainer assemblies, gearshifts, compressor blades, fueling manifolds, impeller assemblies, accessory gears and gear assemblies.

ESTIMATED $2 million in annual savings to U.S. government has resulted from successful implementation of Saigon Port Decongestion Plan. Savings came from reduction in time for docking, off-loading and reloading deep draft shipping in Saigon area.

DR. TIMOTHY W. Stanley has been named Defense Advisor, U.S. Mission to NATO, by Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara and U.S. Ambassador to NATO Harlan Cleveland. Dr. Stanley is replacing John A. Hoover and will act as advisor to Ambassador Cleveland on all defense aspects of NATO and be senior DOD civilian official in European area.

RADM. MARSHALL E. Dornin has relieved RAdm. Frank A. Brandley as Commandant, 11th Naval District, upon Adm. Brandley's retirement after 42 years of naval service. Adm. Dornin reported to his new post from duty as Commander, Naval Operational Test and Evaluation Force, Norfolk, Va.

AIR FORCE PERSONNEL who have previously served tours in Southeast Asia in an "accompanied by dependents" status will not be credited with a remote tour. Such personnel are eligible for a remote tour in Southeast Asia. Details are outlined in forthcoming changes to AFM 36-11, Officer Assignment Manual and AFM 39-11, Airman Assignment Manual.

ARMY MAJ. GEN. Beverly D. Powell has been assigned as Deputy Defense Advisor, U.S. Mission to NATO, replacing Air Force Maj. Gen. Richard D. Curtin, who is retiring. Gen. Powell previously served as Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations, Continental Army Command.

A NEW 35-MINUTE On-the-Job training (OJT) film has been produced by the Air Force to emphasize the dual channel concept of Career Development Course and job proficiency training. The 16mm film consists of two parts, "Beyond the Book" and "Opportunity and Obligation." Film is recommended viewing for all Air Force personnel.

ARMY SIGNAL CENTER and School, Ft. Monmouth, N.J., will host 13th annual Army Human Factors Research and Development Conference, Oct. 25-27. Conference theme will be "Enhancement of Human Performance for Military Operations." Conference will be attended by representatives from Office of Secretary of Defense, Department of Army Staff Agencies and major Army commands.

NAVY HOSPITAL SHIP USS Repose has been awarded Navy Unit Commendation for service to wounded servicemen injured in Vietnam action. Commendation cited ship's role in several Marine operations near DMZ. RAdm. Norvell G. Ward, Commander, Service Group Three, said during presentation ceremonies that wounded personnel "can expect the best treatment when they come to the Repose. The Navy Unit Commendation is a well earned recognition."

AEROSPACE MEDICAL Division's Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine has been requested by 7th Air Force in Vietnam to provide yellow filter sunglasses for selected aircrews flying low level defoliation missions. Glasses were requested because yellow lenses provide greater contrast during early morning and late afternoon haze, giving airmen sharper visibility during low level operations.

**COMMANDERS DIGEST**

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# Navy Carrier Safety Panel Completes Seventh Fleet Tour

Navy's Aircraft Carrier Combat Operations Safety Review Panel has completed a tour of Seventh Fleet attack aircraft carriers and has resumed daily sessions in Washington, D.C.

The panel, headed by retired Adm. James A. Russell, is examining causes, prevention and control of exploding ordnance. It was formed Aug. 15 following the fire that killed 134 men aboard the USS Forrestal.

The panel members met daily for one week before traveling to the Western Pacific to get a first-hand look at flight operations.

Adm. Russell and his group will make recommendations on how to minimize the dangers of fire, and damage caused by fire and exploding ordnance. They will also determine if improvements can be made in fire-fighting and damage control training.

On the panel with Adm. Russell are RAdm. Paul D. Buie, Commander, Naval Aviation Safety Center; Capt. James L. Holloway, III, former commanding officer of the USS Enterprise, and representatives from Navy technical commands.

# Seven Air Force Officers Receive Research, Development Awards

Seven Air Force scientific officers received Research and Development Awards Aug. 31 for "outstanding achievements during 1966."

Receiving awards from Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. McConnell were: Lt. Col. Joseph W. Connolly and 1st Lts. Charles S. Springer Jr. and Kent J. Eisentraut, assigned to the Aerospace Research Laboratories, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. They were honored for work in the field of inorganic chemistry.

Lt. Col. Thornton T. Doss, Air Force Weapons Laboratory, Kirkland AFB, N.M., was cited for his work in Laser research.

Capt. Dino A. Lorenzini, Laboratory Test Division, Holloman AFB, N.M., received the award for test and evaluation of inertial guidance components and systems.

Capt. William B. Goggins Jr., Air Force Cambridge Research Laboratories, Laurence G. Hanscom Field, Mass., was cited for his work in microwave physics.

Capt. John F. Schaefer, Frank J. Seiler Research Laboratory, Air Force Academy, Colo., for his work in automatic control of aerospace vehicles.

The USAF Research and Development Award was established in 1961.

Winners of the award are selected by a committee from the Air Force Scientific Advisory Board. The award consists of a bronze, silver, and walnut plaque and a certificate of award.

*COMMANDERS' SHOP TALK—Army Lt. Gen. John A. Heintges, new USAREUR Deputy Commander-in-Chief (left), talks with Gen. Maurice A. Preston, USAFE Commander-in-Chief, during his first visit to Air Force headquarters in Europe. Gen. Heintges, came to USAREUR from the post of Deputy Commander, U.S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam.*

# Free Postal Service Extended To Combat-Hospitalized Servicemen

In addition to the free mail service now authorized for personnel serving in Vietnam, the U.S. Post Office has extended the free service to individuals who are hospitalized in CONUS as a result of service in the combat zone.

Letters, post cards, and sound-recorded communications having the character of personal correspondence qualify for the free service on an international basis.

Articles sent by free service are not to be marked "Free." Postal authorities cautioned that all mail in this category should be marked "Postage Paid" in the upper right front corner. Also, this must be printed mechanically or applied by rubber stamp. Handwritten, hand printed, or typewritten marking is not authorized.

Airmail service is authorized if article is of distinctive airmail design or if Post Office Department Label No. 19, bearing printed inscription "PAR AVION" is affixed. These labels are available at all local post offices.

# Ambassador Lodge Selected As Marshall Medal Winner

Ambassador-at-Large Henry Cabot Lodge has been selected by the Association of the U.S. Army to receive its highest award, the George Catlett Marshall Medal.

Formerly ambassador to the Republic of Vietnam, Lodge will be presented the award at the Marshall Memorial Dinner, Oct. 11, at the climax of AUSA's annual three-day meeting in Washington, D.C.

Named for former Army Gen. George C. Marshall, the award is presented for "selfless service to the nation."

## U. of Oklahoma Offers Gov't. Studies Program For Military Personnel

The University of Oklahoma is offering a graduate program in Governmental Studies, especially designed to meet the needs of military personnel.

It is a seminar-type program conducted by a combination of independent study and one-week intensive seminars for each course.

Officials said the program offers realistic graduate study opportunities to personnel whose duty schedule or location precludes regular attendance at more conventional evening classes.

## Army Safety Director Wins Williams Memorial Award

The Williams Memorial Award for outstanding contribution to the field of safety engineering has been awarded to Thomas H. Wilkenson, Army safety director.

Wilkenson was cited for . . . "invention, development, plan or service in the interest of greater and improved industrial and general safety to human life and limb."

The award was presented in the office of Army Secretary Stanley R. Resor by Thomas N. Boate, president of the World Safety Research Institute, Inc., New York. Wilkerson is the first career employee in the Department of Defense to receive the honor.

## Fully-Transportable Pharmacy Undergoes Army Field Tests

A fully-equipped pharmacy, transportable by land, sea or air, is undergoing Army field tests.

The pharmacy is designed to support a 400-bed evacuation hospital or a 60-bed mobile surgical hospital.

The unit weighs 8,000 pounds. Four men can set it up for operation or package it for shipment in 30 minutes.

The unit includes a lockable medicine cabinet, refrigeration and freezer storage for biologicals, record-keeping files and a condensed library. It is heated and air conditioned.

*MEDALS AWARDED—VAdm. Charles K. Duncan, Commander Second Fleet (left), presents the Legion of Merit to Army Maj. Andrew H. Housand, fleet assistant plans officer, during ceremonies on board the admiral's flagship, the USS Newport News. To the right are Cdr. Richard J. Damico, who received the Distinguished Flying Cross, a silver star in lieu of a sixth Air Medal, and two Navy Commendation Medals, and Capt. Robert F. Schoultz, who was awarded the Bronze Star. Cdr. Damico and Capt. Schoultz were cited for action while stationed aboard the aircraft carrier USS Franklin D. Roosevelt off the coast of Vietnam.*

## Air Force Contracts For 8 C-9A Aircraft

A $28.7 million contract has been let for eight C-9A (formerly CX-2) medium-sized, twin-engine jet aircraft, with delivery to the Military Airlift Command scheduled to begin the first quarter of Fiscal Year 1969.

The aircraft will be used for aeromedical evacuation.

Essentially an off-the-shelf DC-9 designed for commercial use, the C-9A normally will be configured to carry 30 litter patients, 40 ambulatory patients or a combination of the two.

The contract was awarded to McDonnell-Douglas of Santa Monica, Calif.

With a maximum patient load, the C-9A will cruise at approximately 520 miles per hour over a range of more than 2,000 statute miles.

The new aircraft will replace some of the C-118 Liftmasters and C-131 Samaritans now being used on domestic aeromedical evacuation routes.

## AF Presents New Awards For System Management

Two new Air Force awards, established to provide broader recognition for outstanding achievement by Air Force units and individuals in system program management, have been presented for the first time.

Maj. Gen. Thomas S. Jeffrey, Air Force director of production and programming, presented the individual award to Lt. Col. Robert J. Friend, director of the Athena Program Office of the Air Force System Command's Space and Missile Organization, Norton AFB, Calif. Col. Friend was honored for "outstanding performance in the management of the Athena re-entry vehicle test system."

Award for the "most outstanding achievement in the field of system management" during Fiscal Year 1967 went to the C-141/C-130 System Program Office at AFSC's Aeronautical Systems Division, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio.

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